

Application No. 09/672330
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Amendment
Attorney Docket No. S63.2B-9176-US01

Remarks

Claims 1-12 have been provisionally rejected for obviousness-type double patenting on the basis of two applications, 10/087653 and 10/179646. The rejections are traversed. Reconsideration is requested.

10/087653

The rejection does not say how the subject matter of the present claims can obviously be derived from the subject matter of claims 1-12 of application 10/087653.

Claims 1-12 of the present application are directed to a method of forming a balloon in which the parison is axially stretched under pressure, and expanding the parison ID in the course of the axial stretching step.

Claims 1-12 of 10/097653 are directed to methods of forming a parison by controlling the extrusion of the parison (claims 1-6); to balloon parisons (7, 8); and to medical device balloons formed from parisons (9-12). No claim pertains to a method for forming a balloon. No claim recites a step of stretching a parison under pressure.

A skilled person could not derive the invention of the present application from the subject matter of any of claims 1-12 of 10/087653. Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore requested.

10/179646

The rejection does not say how the subject matter of the present claims can obviously be derived from the subject matter of claims 1-18 and 20-22 of application 10/179646

Claims 1-12 of the present application are directed to a method of forming a balloon in which the parison is axially stretched under pressure, and expanding the parison ID in the course of the axial stretching step.

Claims 1-18 and 20-22 of 10/179646 pertain to methods of forming balloons in which the parison is axially stretched under pressure, while at the same time the parison is necked down.

The person practicing the invention recited in '646 is not led to increase the ID, and would not expect the ID to increase as the parison is necked down. Therefore the invention is seen to be patentably distinct over the invention of application 10/179646. Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore requested.

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In view of the foregoing remarks the application is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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